

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 097663

61

ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MHMAUGHAN:JFC

APPROVED BY NEA - MR. SAUNDERS

NEA/ARN - MR. KORN

H - MISS FOLGER (SUBS.)

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O 262229Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OREP, IZ, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT TO IRAQ BY SENATOR KENNEDY

BEIRUT POUCH BAGHDAD

1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY (D-MASS.) PLANS TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST IN MAY AND HOPES TO INCLUDE IRAQ ON ITINERARY. PRESENT PROPOSAL IS FOR STOP-OVER IN BAGHDAD ABOUT MAY 24-26. SENATOR WANTS TO DISCUSS OIL ISSUES WITH IRAQIS AND WOULD DOUBTLESS ALSO BE INTERESTED IN CURRENT SITUATION RE KURDS.

2. SENATOR'S OFFICE HAS ALREADY INFORMED AMIN HASSAN AT IRAQI INTERESTS SECTION OF PROPOSED TRIP. HASSAN SAID HE WOULD INFORM BAGHDAD IMMEDIATELY AND LATER TOLD NEA/ARN THAT HE HAD IN FACT SENT LETTER TO MFA WITH RECOMMENDATION THAT KENNEDY BE ALLOWED TO VISIT BAGHDAD. HASSAN DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON PROBABLE MFA REACTION TO THIS RECOMMENDATION.

3. USINT REQUESTED TO APPROACH GOI RE KENNEDY'S INTEREST IN

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PAGE 02 STATE 097663

VISITING BAGHDAD FOR DISCUSSIONS ON TOPICS NOTED ABOVE AND

TO INFORM DEPARTMENT ASAP OF GOI RESPONSE. IF RESPONSE IS FAVORABLE, KENNEDY'S OFFICE HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP MEETINGS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS AND USINT SHOULD ASSIST WITH THESE ARRANGEMENTS. SUGGESTIONS ON POSSIBLE SIDE TRIPS ALSO WELCOME. (SENATOR EXPRESSED INTEREST IN BABYLON AND NINEVAH, POSSIBLY SAMARRA.) KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE097663
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MHMAUGHAN:JFC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750147-0732
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750412/aaaaallt.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <28 AUG 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED VISIT TO IRAQ BY SENATOR KENNEDY BEIRUT POUCH BAGHDAD
TAGS: OREP, IZ, US, (KENNEDY, EDWARD M)
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006